

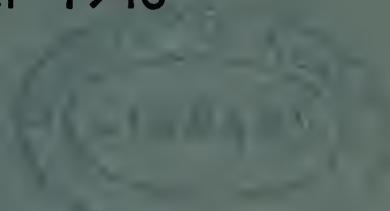
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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1948





# BOURNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1948.

*To the Chairman and Members of  
the Bourne Urban District Council*

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Report and that of your Sanitary Inspector for 1948.

### A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area, in acres ... ... ... ... ... ... 10,103

Population—Registrar General's figures for 1948 ... 4,590  
(but the Ministry of Health's estimate in their  
Water Supply Survey of November, 1948) ... 5,400

This confirms the discrepancy that I have been  
pointing out for some years.

Number of Inhabited Houses ... ... ... 1,473

Rateable Value ... ... ... ... £22,488

Sum represented by a 1d. rate ... ... ... £92

### Vital Statistics

	Male	Female	Total
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Births	47	33	80
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Deaths	28	30	58	(not including non-resident deaths—5 male, 9 female. Total, 14)
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Deaths from Puerperal Causes

„	„	Measles	Nil
„	„	Whooping Cough	
„	„	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	

Causes of Death.	Resident		Non-Resident	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	1	2	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	3	5	—	—
Heart Disease	7	10	2	1
Cancer	2	5	—	—
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	4	—	—
Pneumonia	2	2	—	1
Nephritis	2	—	—	—
Bronchitis	2	1	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	—	—
Other Defined Diseases	6	1	1	4

## B. Health Services of the Area.

The personnel of the Health Services remain the same as before the War.

A third Nurse is needed to do General Nursing. The two Queen's Nurses' time is fully occupied with Midwifery, which they do admirably.

There is only one car between the two of them. A second car would enable them to do their work quicker, with less fatigue, and enable them to tackle some of the General Nursing.

Priority for nurses' cars is fact not fiction.

Home helps are non-existent. Organisers of a Home Health Service should be prepared to do actual "home helping" themselves. The general shortage of Nurses remains acute.

The Ambulance Service has been satisfactory. Long delays still occur at outside hospitals whilst waiting for cases.

The new Health Service has been launched and it has worked, all told, smoothly, despite the added work on those that have to run it.

## C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

By the end of 1948, 37 new houses had been completed, 30 Council and 7 private, and the very worst cases of overcrowding have been relieved, but there is still overcrowding and far too many young couples and their children live in houses which are only fit for old people without children, and that only until such time

as enough houses are erected to enable them to be pulled down. I estimate that another 100 houses are needed and that another 60 houses should be demolished, but a detailed survey should be made on the lines of the Rural Housing Survey.

Fourteen middens have been converted to W.C.s.

Two cases of bug infestation have been dealt with.

Work on the partial re-sewering or fresh sewerage of the town is in progress.

The sanitary arrangements at the Approved School remains most unsatisfactory. Committees meet and Committees ponder, but nothing comes of their deliberation, and nothing gets easier or cheaper for the delay.

#### D. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

All meat is inspected at the Government Slaughter House, in conjunction with the South Kesteven R.D.C.

There is no pretence made to handle carcases hygienically in transit from the Slaughter House to the various butchers' shops.

A close watch is kept on the Ice Cream vendors.

#### E. Prevalence and Control of Infectious and other Diseases.

	Diphtheria	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Dysentery	Scarlet Fever	Acute Poliomyelitis	Cerebro Spinal Fever
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	7	1	-	-	-	-	-
1-2	„	-	-	-	17	2	-	-	-	-	-
2-3	„	-	-	-	29	4	-	-	1	1	-
3-4	„	-	-	1	27	3	-	-	1	1	-
4-5	„	-	-	-	31	2	-	-	1	1	-
5-10	„	-	-	1	97	6	-	-	5	-	-
10-15	„	-	-	-	12	1	-	-	-	-	-
15-20	„	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
20-35	„	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	„	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
45-65	„	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
<b>TOTALS</b>	-	-	7	-	224	20	5	-	8	-	-
Admitted into Hospital	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-

The Measles Epidemic was extensive but not serious.

## Cancer Deaths.

MALE. Stomach, Oesophagus.

FEMALE. 2 Uterus, 2 Breast, Stomach.

## Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1948:—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non- Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
1—2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2—5	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
5—15	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
15—25	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25—35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35—45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45—55	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55—65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

I wish to thank my fellow officers for their unfailing help.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. GALLETY.

# ANNUAL REPORT of the Sanitary Inspector for the Year 1948.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Report for 1948.

## A. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

**Housing.**—Thirty Council Houses were completed during the year, a large proportion of which were let to overcrowded families. Seven private houses were completed.

Consideration was given to the service of Demolition Orders in respect of eight houses and undertakings accepted under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

**Sewage Disposal and Drainage.**—The sewage works continues to be a source of anxiety, being inadequate to deal with the increasing output of sewage.

The Weir Dyke, into which the effluent discharges, was cleansed during the year, and whilst the cleansing was vital, the expenditure was heavy without improving the amenities of the town.

One new length of sewer was laid which provides for additional building land, nine existing premises have been connected to this sewer.

During the year 14 middens have been converted to water-closets.

**Rodent Control.**—Rodent Control is supervised by this Department. One of the Council's Staff has been trained as a Rodent Operator, on which work he is engaged part-time. Periodical treatment of sewers, sewage works and refuse tip, are now carried out.

**Disinfestation.**—Two premises were dealt with during the year.

**Refuse Collection and Salvage.**—Refuse collection is effected weekly in the Town Area, once a fortnight in the villages of Dyke and Cawthorpe, and monthly in the North Fen area.

A house-to-house collection of salvage has been instituted with the use of sandbags, and this is carried out with the normal refuse collection.

**Public Health Act, 1936.**—The following complaints were dealt with:—

	No. of Complaints.	Informal Notices Served.	Statutory Notices Served.
Housing defects	... 33	32	—
Defective drainage	... 34	33	2
Keeping of animals	... 3	3	—
Dangerous structures	3	3	—
Other matters	... 19	13	—
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	92	84	2
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## B. Inspection of Food and Food Premises.

**Meat Inspection.**—Animals intended for food are slaughtered at the Ministry of Food's Central Slaughterhouse. Ante-mortem inspection was made in some cases, but post-mortem inspection was carried out to all carcases with the co-operation of the South Kesteven R.D.C.

The following table shows the carcases inspected and the condemnations:—

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number inspected ...	515	168	240	1,729	162
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	9	13	18	33	19
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	170	53	2	169	66
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with disease other than T.B. ... ...	35.44%	39.28%	8.33%	11.10%	52.47%
<b>Tuberculosis only.</b>					
Whole carcases condemned ...	21	10	2	0	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	119	36	0	0	13
Percentage of the No. inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	25.74%	27.38%	0.08%	0	10.49%

**Food Inspection.**—The following visits were made to food premises:—

Butchers' Shops ... 12	Restaurants ... 6
Ice Cream Premises 9	Other Premises ... 6

Three notices were served with respect to cleansing and ventilation. The necessary works were carried out.

The following unsound food was examined in shops, etc., and surrendered voluntarily for destruction:—

Tinned Fish ... 10lbs.	Chocolate ... 56lbs.
„ Fruit ... 18lbs.	Eggs ... $17\frac{1}{2}$ doz.
„ Meat ... 110lbs.	Fish ... 140lbs.
„ Milk ... 46lbs.	Meat ... 384lbs.
„ Vegetables 44lbs.	Other Food ... 36lbs.

**Sale of Ice Cream.**—Ice cream is manufactured and sold from two premises, and sold from four other premises.

Nine samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratories for examination. The final results were satisfactory.

### C. Factories Act, 1937 & 1948.

The following table shows the inspections made:—

		Number on Register.	Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.
(I) Factories without Mechanical Power Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, enforceable by the Local Authority	... ... ...	16	6	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Sec. 7 is enforceable by the Local Authority. (Factories with Mechanical Power)	... ... ...	41	19	4
(III) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforceable	... ... ...	2	—	—
	TOTAL ...	59	25	4

The defects found were, want of cleanliness and unsuitable sanitary conveniences.

During my first year of office, I have endeavoured to achieve some progress in the arrears of work which have accumulated owing to the difficult circumstances of the past few years.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking my Assistant, Mr. G. Batterham, for his keen and loyal assistance, the assistance afforded me by my Fellow Officers, and for the co-operation of the General Public.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. H. HOWARD,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



